MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MAYOR'S MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE MENTAL HEALTH CARE FINANCE, SUSTAINABILITY & POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 12, 2006

The Mental Health Care Finance, Sustainability & Policy Subcommittee Executive Committee of the Miami-Dade County Mayor's Mental Health Task Force (MMHTF) met in the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, Conference Room 29A, 111 N.W. First Street, Miami, Florida at 2:52 p.m. on January 12, 2006, there being present Co-Chair David Raymond; (Co-Chair Ronald L. Book, Esq., was absent); and Task Force members Mr. Tim Coffey, Assistant Project Coordinator, 11th Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project; Ms. Silvia Quintana, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Program Supervisor, District 11, Florida Department of Children and Families; Mr. Luis Collazo, Florida Assisted Living Affiliation; Mr. C. Eldon Taylor, University of Miami Behavioral Health; Ms. Victoria Teerlink, Victim Services; Reverend Enrique Garcia, New Era Health Center, Inc.; Ms. Leda Perez; Ms. Valda Clark Christian, Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office and Deputy Clerk Judy Marsh.

The following staff members from the Office of the Mayor were present: Mr. Juan Carlos Del Valle, Assistant to the Mayor and Ms. Maria Robau, Project Manager, Mayor's Mental Health Task Force.

Also present was Mr. John Kowal.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chairman David Raymond called the Mental Health Care Finance, Sustainability & Policy (MHCFSP) Subcommittee meeting to order at 2:52 p.m.

Mr. Raymond said the MHCFSP Subcommittee was charged with developing funding recommendations for the tasks recommended by the Miami-Dade County Grand Jury. He noted some of the activities to be addressed by this Subcommittee would overlap with the activities being undertaken by the other Subcommittees.

II. Review of Grand Jury Recommendations relating to Subcommittee Activities

Following discussion on the Grand Jury's recommendation that correctional officers who elect to serve their shifts working on the floors where mentally ill inmates are housed be awarded pay incentives, Mr. Tim Coffey said this issue was being addressed by the Department of Corrections. He noted training for correctional officers would be provided through the Criminal Mental Health Project.

Mr. Raymond suggested the Subcommittee members who had not seen the mental health floor of the Miami-Dade County Jail, contact Department of Corrections Director Charles McRay for a tour.

Following discussion on the Grand Jury's recommendation regarding a proposed mental health diversion facility, Mr. Raymond noted funds had been allocated for capital expenditures for this facility through the County's General Obligation Bond; however, funds had not been identified for operating expenses. He indicated that the proposed facility would replace the mental health floor of the Jail.

In response to Ms. Leda Perez' question whether gap funding could be included as an additional recommendation from the Subcommittee for inmates leaving jail and who had lost their benefits, Mr. Raymond noted this issue was addressed in the Grand Jury's recommendation that the state legislature provide adequate funding for long term care for mentally ill individuals.

Referring to the Grand Jury's recommendation that the state legislature provide funding for the Baker Act Reform bill, Ms. Silvia Quintana said the Baker Act/IOP was recommending that the guardian advocate clause of the Baker Act bill be removed, and that a low-demand treatment approach be utilized.

Mr. Coffey noted he had been working with the Baker Act/IOP Subcommittee, and looking at the funding issues and the number of individuals with mental health needs.

Mr. Raymond suggested the Subcommittee discuss the Grand Jury's recommendations that the state legislature provide funding to increase the number of community based mental health facilities and provide adequate funding for long term care with the Executive Committee and the full Task Force to determine whether these recommendations could be combined.

Mr. Raymond suggested the Subcommittee discuss the Grand Jury's recommendation regarding expansion of the Jail Diversion Program with the Criminal Mental Health Project Subcommittee. He requested that a representative from the Office of Management and Budget attend the Subcommittee meetings.

Mr. Raymond suggested that funders of the mental health services, including Mr. Mark Buchbinder and Mr. Steve Marcus, look at funding for the Jail Diversion Program.

III. Discussion of Additional Priority Areas for Subcommittee

Following discussion on the alternative strategies to facilitate access to entitlement benefits, Mr. Raymond requested that Ms. Sandra Rothman from the Social Security Administration, be invited to a future Subcommittee meeting.

Following discussion on identifying outcome and performance measures, Mr. Raymond requested that Ms. Silvia Quintana contact Mr. Mark Endocott (phonetic), Florida Mental Health Institute, regarding cost analysis for the different types of programs, including trauma-based programs.

Following discussion on the pre-paid mental health plan under Medicaid, Ms. Leda Perez recommended a study group/workgroup look at these issues and including more precise language in terms of monitoring.

Mr. Raymond suggested that complimentary contracting be included in the language. He suggested that a presentation regarding the pre-paid mental health plan be placed on the full Task Force's agenda for discussion.

Ms. Perez inquired about individuals who were not qualified for Medicaid and whether community-based resources were available to men leaving prison.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Mental Health Care Finance, Sustainability & Policy Subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.